

Rural Utilities Service Programs

Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants

What does this program do?

This program helps eligible communities prepare for, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water for households and businesses.

The following events qualify as an emergency:

- Drought or flood
- Earthquake
- Tornado or hurricane
- Disease outbreak
- Chemical spill, leak or seepage
- Other disasters

NOTE: A federal disaster declaration is not required

Who may apply for this program?

- Most State and local governmental entities
- Nonprofit organizations
- Federally recognized Tribes

How may funds be used?

- Water transmission line grants up to \$150,000 are for construction of waterline extensions, repairs to breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, and related maintenance necessary to replenish water supply

- Water Source grants up to \$500,000 are for construction of a new water source, intake and/or treatment facility

How do we get started?

- Applications for this program are accepted through your [local RD office](#) year round
- Program Resources are available online (forms, guidance, certifications etc.)

Who can answer questions?

- Contact your local RD office
- Participating non-profit associations also offer assistance and training

What law governs this program?

- Code of Federal Regulation, [7 CFR 1778](#)
- This program is authorized by Section 306A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT)

NOTE: Because citations and other information may be subject to change, please always consult the program instructions listed in the section above titled "What Law Governs this Program?" You may also contact [your local office](#) for assistance.

You will find additional forms, resources, and program information at www.rd.usda.gov